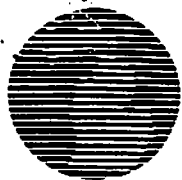


D.C.



Translating concern
into action

West Michigan Environmental Action Council

1324 Lake Drive, S.E. • Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506 • 616-451-3051



RECEIVED
GROUNDWATER QUALITY DIV.

SEP 28 1983

DISTRICT 9
GRAND RAPIDS

September 27, 1983

Mr. Roger Przybysz
Department of Natural Resources
State of Michigan Office Building
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Dear Roger:

Leachate from Kent County's 10 mile road sanitary landfill has contaminated ground and surface water for years. During the earlier years of operation at this facility, Kent County saw little harm in contaminants such as iron and relatively minor BODs. We agree. However, the point is that iron and BOD are indicators of a breach in the landfills containment system and unknown other hazardous contaminants may also be migrating off-site.

Within the last year, scans 1 and 2 for purgeable halocarbons and purgeable aromatic hydrocarbons were done for groundwater monitoring wells and NPDES samples. These samples yielded positive results in all but a couple of samples.

The chemicals detected by scans 1 and 2 evaporate very rapidly once they come in contact with the air.

Unfortunately, nobody knows if a surface water problem exists because, to the best of our knowledge, scans 3 through 9 have never been done. These scans detect the following:

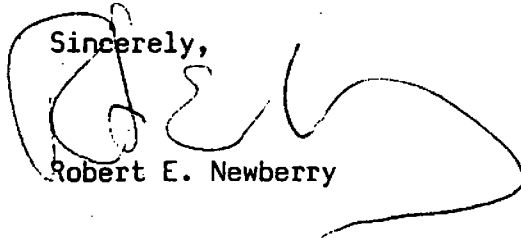
- chlorinated hydrocarbons
- PCB and organochlorine pesticides
- PBB
- phthalate esters and polar pesticides
- polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons
- phenols
- aromatic amines

Some notice should be given to the public if less volatile, hazardous chemicals are found along the NPDES discharge stream.

The West Michigan Environmental Action Council formally requests that the DNR initiate a full quantitative or qualitative scan to detect the full array of organic chemicals. We feel a one-time analysis is warranted and necessary. In addition, we feel it imperative that an adequate analysis priority be given to these samples in order to insure the reliability of the test results.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. E. Newberry', written over the typed name.

Robert E. Newberry

cc: W. Bradford
G. Pio
C. Kemppainen